(vi) Improvement to waiting room and waiting hall;

(vii) Improvement to Platform surface;

(viii) Improvement to water booths; and

(ix) Improvement to retiring room.

Amritsar -

i. Face work of station building;

ii. Improvement to circulating area;

iii. Improvement to platform surface; and

iv. Landing of foot over bridges with granite stone flanged cut.

Moreover, both these stations have been identified for development as World Class station.

(c) to (e) There is no proposal at present to introduce heritage trains for tourists to Amritsar during the Commonwealth Games. However, Railways will make all efforts to clear extra rush of passenger traffic during the Commonwealth Games.

More railway stations on Qazigund-Baramulla rail line

268. SHRI G. N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplates to establish more Railway stations on Qazigund - Baramulla Railway Sector on Public demand; and

(b) whether one such stations can be established at Naina - Batapora and another at Ratinpora - Hanjipura in Pulwama district?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) No, Sir. At present fifteen Railway Stations are operational between Qazigund - Baramullah railway sector over a distance of about 118 kms. There is no plan to establish more railway stations in this sector.

(b) Setting up of station depends on a number of factors such as viability, demand, feasibility and operational requirement. Naina-Batapora is less than 4 kms from Bijbahara and Punjgam. Similarly, Ratinpora-Hanjipura is less than 6 kms from Awantipore and 4 kms from Kakapore. Therefore, setting up of stations at Naina-Batapora and at Ratinpora-Hanjipora is operationally not justified.

Udhampur-Qazigund rail line

269. SHRI G.N. RATANPURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplates re-alignment of Udhampur-Qazigund railway line;

(b) if so, the steps which have taken to expedite fresh survey;

(c) whether adequate allocation has been made in Railway and/or Genera! Budget to complete the construction of this railway line on schedule; and

(d) whether Government would give a firm date/schedule for completion of this railway line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMED): (a) There is no plan for complete re- alignment of Udhampur-Qazigund section. However, on Katra-Qazigund section, due to adverse geological conditions in some stretches, studies for optimisation by local re-alignment is being carried out.

(b) Fresh survey has been ordered at identified locations and agencies are working on it.

(c) Udhampur-Qazigund rail line is a part of Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla new line project which is a National Project and sufficient funds are being allocated based on the progress of the work.

(d) Udhampur-Katra section (25 km) is targeted to be completed by December 2011. Katra-Qazigund section (148 km) is likely to be completed by 2017-18.

Railway projects in North-East region

270. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the implementation status and target set for various national projects in the NER indicating the progress made for completion of the gauge conversion of Rangia Murkongselek sections of NF Railway during current financial year stating total outlay, annual allocation and utilization made up to October, 2009 and provision made for subsequent years; and

(b) the status and target set for main bridge construction of the Bogibeel Bridge project over Brahmaputra indicating total outlay, annual allocation and utilization made up to October, 2009 and provision made for subsequent years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Details of National Projects in North Eastern Region alongwith expenditure incurred upto March, 2009, outlay for 2009-10 and status are as under :-

(Rs in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of the Project	Anticipated cost as per budget 2009-10	Exp. upto March, 09	Outlay 2009-10 (through railway budgetary support)	Present status
1	2	3	4	5	6
New LIne					
1.	Jiribam-	2492.53	73.63	50.00	Final Location Survey in 84 km completed. Earthwork and bridges taken up where land has been acquired. Jiribam-Tupul targeted for March, 2014 and Tupul-Imphal for March, 2016.